

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-65. (canceled).

66. (currently amended) An isolated or first purified polypeptide which binds to a second polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4, said first polypeptide comprising amino acids 380 to 599 of SEQ ID NO: 2, ~~and~~ wherein said amino acids 380 to 599 are at the carboxy terminus of said first polypeptide ~~binds a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4~~.

67-71. (canceled).

72. (currently amended) A composition comprising a first isolated or purified polypeptide and a second isolated or purified polypeptide, wherein said first polypeptide and said second polypeptide specifically bind each other, wherein said first polypeptide comprises amino acids 1 to 39 of SEQ ID NO: 6, wherein said amino acids 1 to 39 are at the carboxy terminus of said first polypeptide, and wherein said second polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:4.

73-85. (canceled).

86. (currently amended) An isolated or purified first polypeptide which binds a second polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4, said first polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to amino acids 1-599 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO: 2, and wherein amino acids of said first polypeptide corresponding to amino acids 561-599

of SEQ ID NO:2 have 100% identity with amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated or purified polypeptide binds a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4.

87. (currently amended) An isolated or purified first polypeptide which binds a second polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4, said first polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 97% similarity to amino acids 1-599 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO: 2, and wherein amino acids of said first polypeptide corresponding to amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2 have 100% identity with amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated or purified polypeptide binds a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4.

88. (previously presented) An isolated or purified polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

89-90. (canceled).

91. (currently amended) An isolated or purified primase which binds a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4, wherein said primase comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a first an-amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to amino acids 1-599 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein amino acids of said first amino acid sequence corresponding to amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2 have 100% identity with amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a second an-amino acid sequence having at least 97% similarity to amino acids 1-599 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein amino acids of said second amino acid sequence corresponding to amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2 have 100% identity with amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2; and

(c) an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2;

and wherein said primase further possesses a biological activity selected from the group consisting of activation of DNA polymerase activity, RNA primase activity, stimulation of helicase activity of *S. aureus* DnaC helicase, and stimulation of ATPase activity of *S. aureus* DnaC helicase.

92-104. (canceled).

105. (previously presented) An isolated or purified polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

106. (previously presented) An isolated or purified fragment of *Staphylococcus aureus* DnaG primase set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein said fragment binds a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4, and wherein said fragment is selected from the group consisting of amino acids 229 to 599 of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acids 380 to 599 of SEQ ID NO:2.

107. (currently amended) An isolated or purified first polypeptide which binds a second polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4, said first polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 95% identity to amino acids 1-599 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein amino acids of said first polypeptide corresponding to amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2 have 100% identity with amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated or purified first polypeptide further possesses a biological activity selected from the group consisting of: activation of DNA polymerase activity, RNA primase activity, stimulation of helicase activity of *S. aureus* DnaC helicase, and stimulation of ATPase activity of *S. aureus* DnaC helicase.

108. (currently amended) An isolated or purified first polypeptide which binds a second polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:4, said first polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having at least 97% similarity to amino acids 1-599 ~~over the entire length~~ of SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein amino acids of said first polypeptide corresponding to amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2 have 100% identity with amino acids 561-599 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said isolated or purified first polypeptide further possesses a biological activity selected from the group consisting of: activation of DNA polymerase activity, RNA primase activity, stimulation of helicase activity of *S. aureus* DnaC helicase, and stimulation of ATPase activity of *S. aureus* DnaC helicase.